GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3321
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
OPENING OF PETROL OUTLETS
Rajendran Shri P.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) : whether the Government has permitted the opening of large number of petrol outlets all over the country ;

(b) : if so, the number of retail outlets opened by Oil Marketing Companies during the last three years, State-wise and company-wise ;

(c) : whether any norms have been prescribed for opening of new outlets;

(d) : whether these norms are being violated especially with regard to the distance between the outlets; and

(e) : if so, the action taken against those outlets which have violated the norms ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b) : Subsequent to the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) w.e.f. 1.4.2002, public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) have been given commercial freedom, subject to commercial viability, for selection of location, selection of dealers, etc of Retail Outlets (ROs). The number of ROs opened by OMCs during the last three year, State-wise and company-wise, is annexed.

(c)to(e) : Subsequent to dismantling of APM, the Ministry has not prescribed any distance norms for setting up of new ROs and such decisions are made by OMCs subject to commercial feasibility of the location after obtaining necessary statutory approvals based on norms prescribed by the Explosives Department, Local/Government Authorities, National Highway Authority, etc. In case of violation of the norms, the concerned statutory authority takes appropriate action.